

XXXV. *Description of six new East Indian Coleoptera.*
By W. W. SAUNDERS, Esq., *F.L.S.*

[Read 4th April, 1836.]

MELOLONTHA BIMACULATA. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 2.)

Head depressed, quadrate, the anterior angles rounded, deep dull brown, with the palpi and antennæ dark chesnut.

Thorax depressed, rather broader than the head and eyes in front, gradually widening and then slightly retracting from about the middle, the lateral margins slightly elevated and crenate, the posterior margin curving outwards, and the anterior margin nearly straight—of the same deep dull brown as the head.

Elytra ovate, rather broader than the thorax at the base, the lateral margins rather elevated, bright castaneous, with a small white oval spot on each, near the apex, the semi-oval scutellum and elevated margin somewhat darker.

Wings of a smoky brown.

Abdomen projecting beyond the elytra, greyish brown.

Legs dark castaneous, the fore tibiæ tridentate externally, with one small pointed tooth internally; the posterior tibiæ robust and conic, with long spurs.

Length, 2 inches.

From the East Indies, in the collection of Sigismund Rucker, Esq.

This appears nearly allied to *M. Commersonii* Oliv. *Ent.* 1 Div. Mel. Tab. 409, but differs in being smaller, having the fore tibiæ tridentate, and in other characters.

JUMNOS RUCKERI. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 1.)

Head steel blue, projecting, quadrate, rather wider in front, with the anterior angles sharp, the lateral margins elevated and rough, with unequal tubercles, the anterior margin smooth and elevated, and the upper surface rough, with elevated spots, and partly covered with reddish brown hairs. Antennæ and palpi dark castaneous.

Thorax of a deep shining green, much depressed, and rounded in front, as broad as the head and eyes, then swelling out, and a little beyond the middle the sides running nearly parallel, the lateral margins entire and slightly elevated, and the posterior margin nearly straight, forming two blunt projections.

Elytra rather broader than the thorax, with the scutellum large,

triangular, of the same deep shining green as the thorax, with two large oval discoidal spots near the apex of the scutellum, and two broad fasciæ near the apex, extending from the margin nearly to the suture, rounded internally, and the posterior margin waved.

Wings black.

Abdomen projecting beyond the elytra, brassy green, partly covered underneath with reddish brown hairs.

Legs long, especially the first pair, green with shades of purple, the tarsi steel blue. *Tibiæ* of the first pair slightly curved, with a large tooth towards the apex externally, expanded at the apex into a tooth on either side, and all the under part covered in a remarkable manner with irregular and elevated tubercles; of the middle and last pairs, straight, ciliated internally with long reddish brown hairs, and supplied each with a pair of spurs. Tarsi, with the joints tubercled underneath, especially in the first pair, and the last joint with a bundle of hair underneath, near the claws, in the two first pairs.

Claws very long and curved.

Length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

From the East Indies, in the collection of S. Rucker, Esq.

This splendid insect, nearly allied to *Cetonia*, I have ventured to propose as a new genus, but others more conversant with the group to which it belongs must determine whether I have acted rightly. The very remarkable fore legs, projecting tubercled head, protuberant thorax, and ciliated posterior tibiæ, are the external characters which have led me to this. The parts of the mouth I have not ventured to dissect and examine, the specimen being unique.

The specific name is after my friend Sigismund Rucker, Esq. a great friend of Entomology, and who kindly lent me the insects described in this paper, from a collection he has lately procured from the East Indies.

Pl. XVI. Fig. 1 a, head and thorax seen sideways; 1 b, sternum; 1 c, fore leg.

LUCANUS BICOLOR. Fab. var. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 3.)

Dark shining brown, almost black.

Head broad, quadrate, emarginate in front, wavy at the anterior angles, a sharp tooth on each side behind the eyes, two slight impressions on the front, and the part about the eyes underneath deeply truncate. Mandibles stout, projecting, almost as long as the head, dentate externally, with five or six rounded irregular teeth on each.

Thorax rather broader than the head, transverse, rounded on the

sides, emarginate at the posterior angles, the anterior margin curved outwards, the posterior nearly straight.

Elytra ovate, the margin slightly elevated, glossy testaceous, with a broadly based triangular patch extending from the base to the apex, and the elevated margin dark brown. Scutellum small, semi-ovate.

Legs long, the fore tibiæ dentate externally, with four or five pointed teeth, and a tooth and a spur at the apex; the posterior tibiæ with two spurs each. The joints of the tarsi spongy underneath.

Length, 2 inches.

From the East Indies, in the collection of S. Rucker, Esq.

CERAMEYX FORMOSUS. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 4.)

Head black, with the eyes and palpi pitchy brown. Antennæ rather longer than the body, with the third, fourth, and fifth joints slightly produced at the apex externally.

Thorax broader than the head, spherical, truncate, orange with four black spots above placed so as to form a diamond, the two lateral ones bearing a small spine.

Elytra broader than the thorax, orange with a black wavy band at the base, another broad transverse band wavy on the posterior margin, a little below the middle, and between the bands four round black spots, two large placed on the disk, and two smaller laterally, one near each shoulder.

Abdomen beneath dull orange.

Legs long and slender, black, with the thighs clavate.

Length, $\frac{7}{8}$ inch.

From the East Indies, in the collection of S. Rucker, Esq.

LAMIA CROCEO-CINCTA. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 6.)

Head vertical, black, with a large frontal yellow spot. Antennæ about two-thirds the length of the body, ciliated externally on the third, fourth, and fifth joints.

Thorax as broad as the head, cylindrical, produced laterally into two blunt spines, black, with a large lateral yellow spot on each side anteriorly.

Elytra broader than the thorax, the shoulders prominent, conic, truncate, black, with two broad yellow bands, one transverse towards the base, and another a little below the middle, inclining towards the shoulders.

Abdomen underneath yellow.

Legs short and thick, black, with the tibiæ underneath yellow.

Length, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

From the East Indies, in the collection of S. Rucker, Esq.

SAPERDA TESTACEA. (Pl. XVI. Fig. 5.)

Head black, with the palpi testaceous, and a dull brown spot on the vertex, near the thorax. Antennæ rather more than half the length of the body, black, with the bases of the third to the seventh joints dirty white, the first, second, and third joints covered with long bushy hairs.

Thorax rather broader than the head, pale testaceous, cylindrical, with a blunt protuberance on each side, and three others forming a triangle on the vertex.

Elytra rather broader than the thorax, long, cylindrical, pale testaceous, with two small brown spots near the scutellum, deeply punctate all over, except towards the apex, and each elytron with three longitudinal elevated lines, two on the disk and one near the margin, the lateral anterior angles brown.

Abdomen underneath velvety black, with the apex testaceous.

Legs short, the first pair testaceous, with the outside of the tibiæ and tarsi black, the two posterior pairs black, with the knees and bases of the femora testaceous.

Length, $\frac{7}{8}$ inch.

From the East Indies, in the collection of S. Rucker, Esq.

XXXVI. *Observations in support of the opinion, that the Blatta, or Cockroach, cannot be considered the same Insect as Orb, the Fly which humbled the pride of Pharaoh.*
By the Rev. F. W. HOPE, M.A., F.R.S., &c.

[Read 6th March, 1837.]

My much valued friend, the Rev. William Kirby, in his Bridge-water Treatise, (a work which has greatly tended to overthrow the futile theories of Lamarck), has in the second volume, p. 357, introduced the following remarkable passage: "It has been suggested to me by an eminent and learned prelate, that the Egyptian plague of flies, which is usually supposed to have been either 'a mixture of different species' (Aquila and Jerom), or a fly then called the dog-fly (*Orb*), but which is not now known, was a cockroach." When I read this passage, it naturally excited my astonishment;